



¡EL PRINCIPIO DE LA HISTORIA DEL FANTASMA QUE ODIABA A SUPERMAN!

AHORA
40¢

SUPERMAN'S

ACTION COMICS

NO. 494
APR.
APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

¡SUPERMAN,
AYUDA!

¡SALVAME DE
ESE ASESINO!

¿QUÉ
ASESINO,
LOIS?

¡NO VEO A
NADIE MÁS EX-
CEPTO A TI!



Handwritten signature

ENVIADO A LA TIERRA CUANDO ERA UN BEBE DESDE EL CONDENADO PLANETA KRYPTON, KAL-EL CRECIÓ EN LA TIERRA... ¡BAJO EL SOL AMARILLO Y LA BAJA GRAVEDAD OBTIENE GRANDES PODERES! EN LA CIUDAD DE METRÓPOLIS SE DISFRAZA COMO EL TIMIDO REPORTERO CLARK KENT... PERO PELEA CONTRA EL MAL SOBRE LA TIERRA-- Y MÁS ALLÁ COMO...

SUPERMAN

Created by
JERRY SIEGEL &
JOE SHUSTER

BUENO, CLARK. TU ANTIGUO DESPACHO. INADIE LO HA OCUPADO DESDE TU TRASLADO A LA WGBS!

SIEMPRE SOSPECHE PARA MIS ADENTROS QUE ALGÚN DÍA VOLVERÍAS AL "PLANET"...

¡BIENVENIDO DE NUEVO AL DAILY PLANET, CLARK!

PRUEBA LA MÁQUINA DE ESCRIBIR, ES ELÉCTRICA, ÚLTIMO MODELO.

CLARK KENT ENTRE NOSOTROS. ¡COMO EN LOS VIEJOS TIEMPOS!



NO DEL TODO COMO EN LOS VIEJOS TIEMPOS, LOIS... LO QUE OS OCURRIRÁ A TI Y CLARK (SUPERMAN) KENT DENTRO DE LAS PROXIMAS HORAS SERÁ NO SOLO INOLVIDABLE SINO TAMBIÉN INIMAGINABLE HASTA PARA EL HOMBRE DE ACERO, Y TODO COMIENZA CUANDO SE REVELA...

POR
IKER & MEGAS

¡EL SECRETO DE LA SUPER-S!

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LETTERER: BEN ODA

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COLORIST: GENE D'ANGELO

INKER: FRANK CHIARAMONTE
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ACTION COMICS®, Vol. 42, No. 494, April, 1979. Published monthly by DC COMICS INC., 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019. Second Class Postage paid at New York, N.Y. and Additional Mailing Offices. Copyright © 1979 by DC Comics Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred. Printed in U.S.A.

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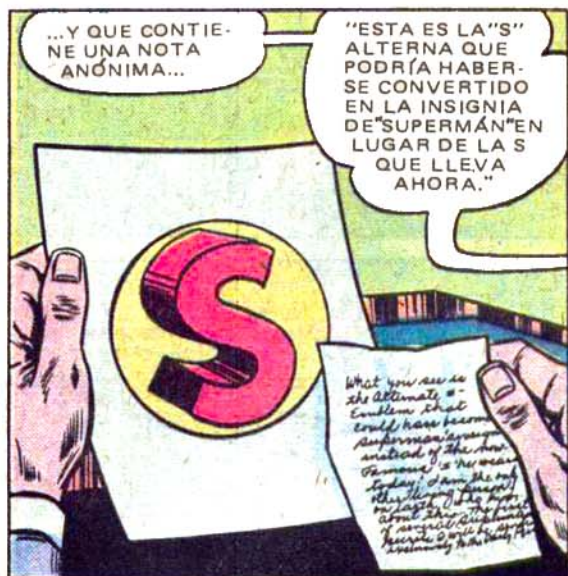
Advertising Representative, Sanford Schwarz & Co., Inc., 355 Lexington Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10017, (212) 391-1400

SUBSCRIPTION DEPT.: DC COMICS INC., 155 Allen Blvd., Farmingdale, N.Y. 11737. Annual subscription rate \$6.75. Outside U.S.A. \$7.75.

Jenette Kahn, Publisher
Joe Orlando, Managing Editor
Julius Schwartz, Editor
E. Nelson Bridwell, Associate Editor
Jack Adler, Vice-Pres. Production
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VARIAS HORAS DESPUÉS,
UN TREN DE PASAJEROS
SE DESLIZABA SUAVE-
MENTE POR LAS MAJES-
TUOSAS MONTAÑAS DE
METRÓPOLIS...



...DIRECTO HACIA EL DESASTRE.
UNA ESPANTOSA AVALANCHA...



...QUE BLOQUEA LAS
VÍAS AL FINAL DE
UNA CURVA CERRA-
DA!

¡FRENAR!

¡ES IMPOSIBLE
FRENAR A TIEM-
PO!



PERO EN EL ÚLTIMO MO-
MENTO...

¡NO PUEDO CREER-
LO! ¿CÓMO PODE-
MOS PASAR A TRA-
VÉS DE LAS RO-
CAS?

ESTÁ TAN OSCURO, QUE NO PUE-
DO VER NADA. ¡ENCIENDE LAS
LUCES!



¡CLARO! ¡QUE
OTRA EXPLICA-
CIÓN PODÍA HA-
BER!

¿CÓMO DEMONIOS SE
LAS ARREGLA PARA APA-
RECER JUSTO EN EL
MOMENTO PRECI-
SO?





¡ÉSTE ES SU DONI ESTÁ UTILIZANDO SU VISTA DE INFRARROJOS PARA DERRETRIR EL TÚNEL A TRAVÉS DE LAS ROCAS!



LO ATRAVESAMOS SIN UN ROCE. ¡INCREDIBLE!

NO... "SUPER"... COMO "SUPERMÁN."



KABOOOMMM

¡Y ESTO ELIMINARÁ OTROS POSIBLES DESPRENDIMIENTOS!



LOS PASAJEROS SEGURAMENTE IGNORAN QUE HAN PASADO POR UN TÚNEL QUE NO ESTABA PREVISTO EN EL MAPA.

Y ES PORQUE...



...NO SABEN QUE A "SUPERMÁN" SE LE HA OCURRIDO ABRIRLO JUSTO DELANTE DEL TREN EN EL MOMENTO INDICADO.

NO ME GUSTA DAR RAZONES PARA QUE CIERTA PERIODISTA FEMENINA VUELVA A SENTIR SOSPECHAS.







¡CLARK, HIJO MÍO, ESTAS AQUÍ Y LA BELLA JOVEN QUE TE ACOMPAÑA ES LA Famosa Lois Lane!

COMO NO ACUDISTE A NUESTRA CITA, HEMOS VENIDO, ¿NECESITAS UN MÉDICO?



¡NI HABLARI SOY UN VIEJO POLICIA EN PLENA FORMA. SOLO HA SIDO UN SUSTO, ESO ES TODO...

DEBÍ IMPEDIR QUE ESE SOLDADO Y SU ESPADA ME ABATIERAN TAN FÁCILMENTE...

¿SOLDADO?



SÍ, HIJA. IAGÁRRATE, CLARK! ILA CASA DE TUS PADRES ESTÁ HABITADA POR EL FANTASMA DE UN SOLDADO DE LA REVOLUCIÓN!

¡JEFE, VOY A AVISAR AL MÉDICO! HE VIVIDO AQUÍ DOCE AÑOS Y NUNCA SE ME HA APARECIDO NADIE.

¡NO PARECE TENER FIEBRE!



NO SON CHOCHERÍAS DE VIEJO. ¿VEIS ESA CHATARRA CIENTÍFICA? ES EL EQUIPO QUE USAN LOS PARAPSIÓLOGOS...

UN "CAZADOR DE FANTASMAS"!



DESDE QUE VI POR PRIMERA VEZ AL SOLDADO, HE ESPERADO TODAS LAS NOCHES...

...PODER FOTOGRAFIARLO CON CÁMARA DE INFRARROJOS. ¡EN VANO!



PERO ESTA NOCHE, EN VEZ DE IGNORARME COMO DE COS TUMBRE, ME HA ATACADO... ¡O LO HA INTENTADO!

CLARO QUE, AL SER UN ENTE FANTASMAGÓRICO, SU ESPADA ME HA ATRAVESADO SUAVEMENTE.

¡PERO APUESTO A QUE TENÉIS HAM-BRE!





Y ACUÉRDATE DE MIS PALABRAS, CLARK...ALGÚN DÍA TUS SUPER-PROEZAS LO CONVERTIRÁN EN EL SÍMBOLO MÁS FAMOSO DE LA TIERRA...



PERO SIEMPRE CREÍ QUE MIS PADRES ADOPTIVOS SE LLEVARON CON ELLOS A LA TUMBA EL SECRETO DE LA SEGUNDA "S".

AHORA, ALGO O ALGUIEN LO HA DESCUBIERTO.

NO ME DIGAS...



IDÉJAME ADIVINAR BAJASTE PARA REVIVIR VIEJOS TIEMPOS LLENOS DE RECUERDOS INCONFESABLES DE LA INFANCIA.

ER...DISTE EN EL CLAVO, LOIS.



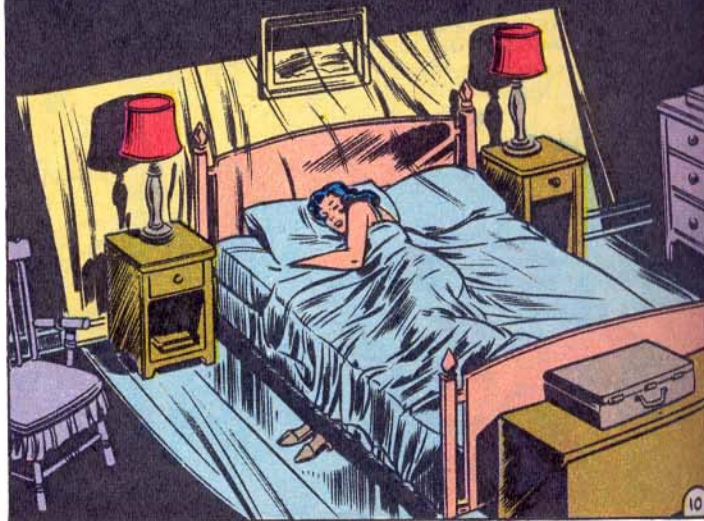
¿QUÉ TE PARECERÍA DEJAR LA NOSTALGIA Y LOS CLICHÉS AQUÍ ABAJO E IR A COMER? DE PRIMER PLATO TENEMOS...

ESTOFADO DE PARKER. RECONOCERÍA ESTE OLOR EN CUALQUIER SITIO.



DESPUÉS DE LA CENA...

...LOIS LANE SE RETIRÓ A LA HABITACIÓN PRINCIPAL, DONDE ANTAÑO DORMIERON JONATHAN Y MARTHA KENT...



PERO EL JEFE PARKER PLANEABA PASARSE TODA LA NOCHE SIN DORMIR, ESPERANDO AL FANTASMA...



Y CLARK KENT...

...HACE UNOS MOMENTOS DIJO BUENAS NOCHES Y SUBIÓ A SU HABITACIÓN PRIVADA QUE USUALMENTE ESTÁ VACÍA...



...ALGO QUE NO HA CAMBIADO ESTA NOCHE



NO HE PODIDO RESISTIR LA TENTACIÓN DE VOLAR A MEDIANOCHE POR ENCIMA DE SMALLVILLE, COMO ANTAÑO

HA HABIDO CAMBIOS, PERO LA CIUDAD ESTÁ CASI IGUAL.



¡ATENCIÓN, MUCHACHOS! IMANGUERAS EN RIS- TREI

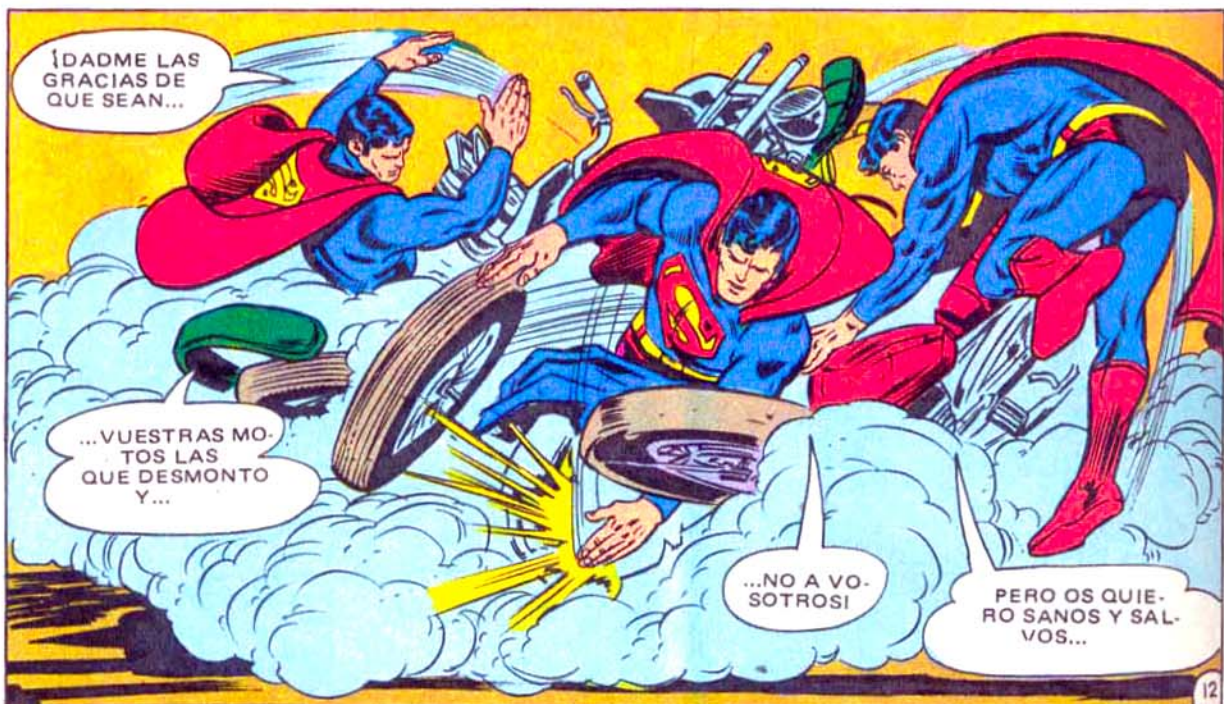
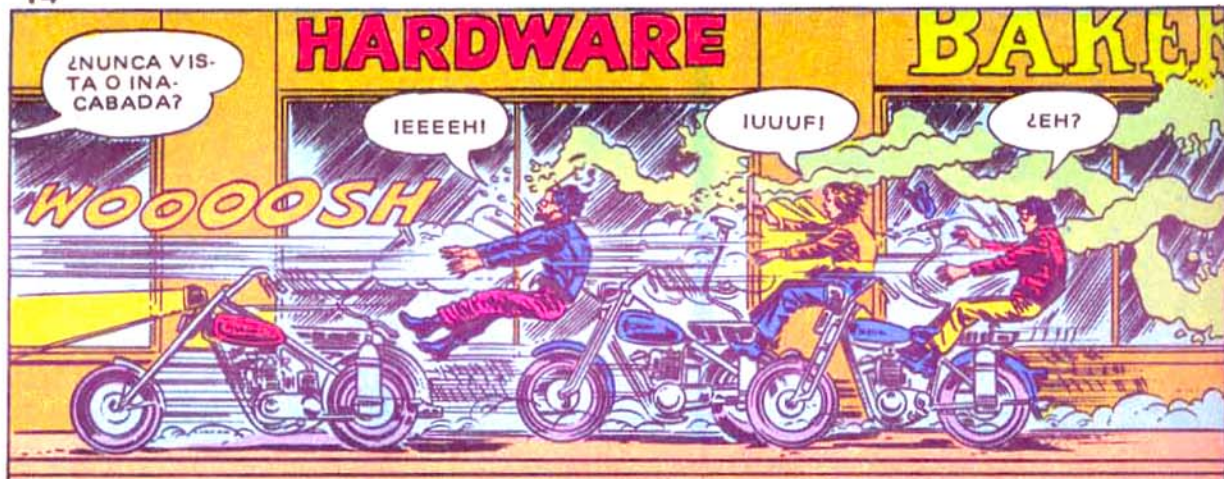
ESTAMOS LISTOS, JEFE.



¡MENOS CHARLAR Y MÁS ROCIAR!

¡HA LLEGADO EL MOMENTO DE CONVERTIR OTRA CALLE EN OBRA DE ARTE!

UNA OBRA DE ARTE NUNCA VISITA.



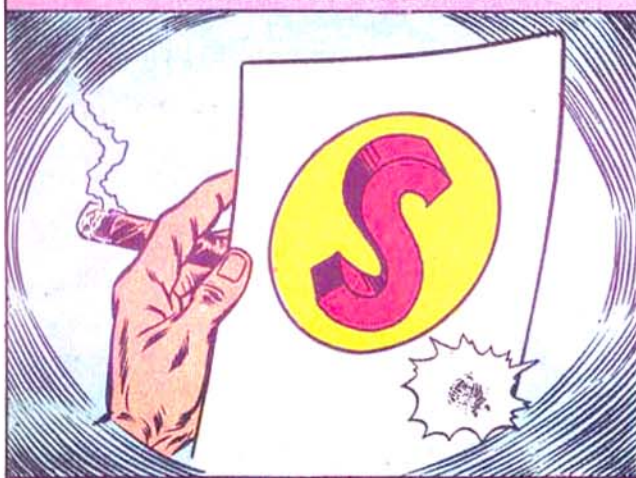




EEEEEEEEK



"CON LAS HUELLAS CASI IMPERCEPTIBLES QUE MI VISTA-MICROSCÓPICA DESCUBRIÓ EN EL ANÓNIMO QUE NOS ENSEÑÓ PERRY".



"CONCLUSIÓN...EL HOMBRE MISTERIOSO QUE ENVIO LA CARTA AL 'PLANET' FUE EL JEFE PARKER.



¡PERO SI HA DESCUBIERTO LA S ALTERNA... TUVO QUE DEDUCIR QUE SUPER-BOY CRECIÓ EN CASA DE LOS KENT!

NO PUEDO CREER QUE QUIERA REVELAR ALGUNO DE MIS SECRETOS. EXCEPTO...

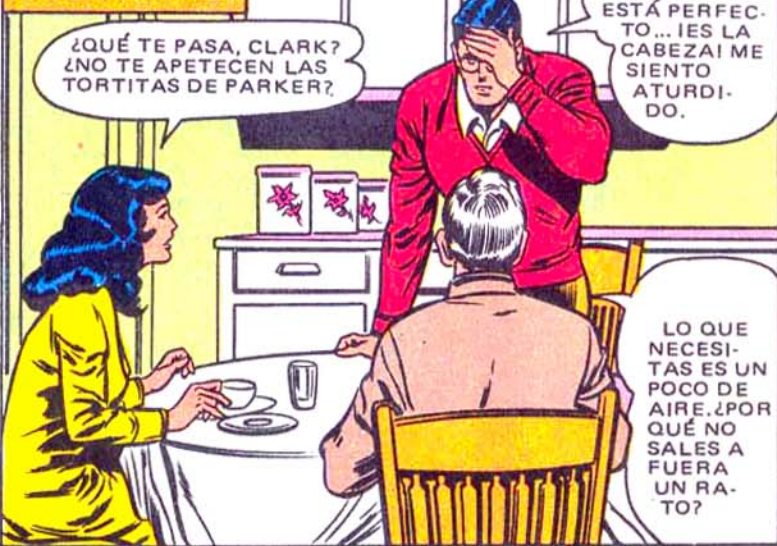
EXCEPTO SI EN ESTA CASA FLOTA UNA ESPECIE DE FUERZA PARAPSICOLÓGICA.



PUEDA QUE EL ENTE...HAYA PROYECTADO LA S EN EL CEREBRO DE PARKER...ORDENÁNDOLE QUE ENVÍASE EL DIBUJO Y LA NOTA...

UNA PROYECCIÓN MENTAL TAN POTENTE QUE HASTA AQUEL GAMBERRO LA CAZÓ AL PASAR FRENTE A LA CASA.

POR LA MAÑANA...



¿QUÉ TE PASA, CLARK? ¿NO TE APETECEN LAS TORTITAS DE PARKER?

MI ESTÓMAGO ESTÁ PERFECTO... ¡ES LA CABEZA! ME SIENTO ATURDIDO.

LO QUE NECESITAS ES UN POCO DE AIRE. ¿POR QUÉ NO SALES A FUERA UN RATO?



ENTRE NOSOTROS, HIJA...A PESAR DE SU APARIENCIA, SIEMPRE FUE EL CHICO MÁS ENFERMIZO QUE HE CONOCIDO.

ERA TAN ROBUSTO COMO SUPER BOY PERO NO TE CREERIAS LA DE VECES QUE CAIA ENFERMO Y NO PODIA IR A LA ESCUELA.

ES CURIOSO.



ESTE MAREO NO HA SIDO NATURAL. LA CABEZA ME DA VUELTAS...ES COMO SI SUFRIESE UNA DISMINUCIÓN DE PODER EN LAS CÉLULAS CEREBRALES.

NO PUEDO DESCRIBIR MI ESTADO.

DENTRO, PARKER VUELVE AL TEMA DE LOS ENCANTAMIENTOS...

AMBOS PUDIMOS HABER VISTO AL MISMO ESPÍRITU, SU FORMA DEPENDE DE LA CONDICIÓN MENTAL DE CADA UNO...

COMO MI SOLDADO REVOLUCIONARIO... O EL RECUERDO DE UN TÍO SUYO QUE FUE GENERAL EN LA SEGUNDA GUERRA MUNDIAL.



¡YA ENTIENDO! ASÍ, SEGÚN SU TEORÍA, SI EL ESPÍRITU SE APARECIESE A CLARK...

ADOPTARÍA LA FORMA DEL GUERRERO MÁS GRANDE QUE CLARK SE PUDIERA IMAGINAR.

LO QUE NO SÉ ES CÓMO SERÍA.



AL MISMO TIEMPO EN UN BOSQUE CERCANO A SMALLVILLE...

¡AH! ¡QUÉ REFRESCANTE!

MI MALESTAR MISTERIOSO HA DESAPARECIDO TAN DE REPENTE COMO VINI. ¡EN MI MENTE REINA UNA PAZ EXTRAORDINARIA!

¡NUNCA ME HABÍA SENTIDO MEJOR! TAL VEZ SEA EL EFECTO VIGORIZADOR DE ESTA DUCHA HELADA.

¡POR KRYPTON!

GLUB





¡AUN NO ESTOY EN FORMA! ESTE GOLPE CASI ME HA DEJADO SIN SENTIDO.

¡CREÍ VER UN DWALUI!



¡UN GUERRERO DE DOS METROS QUE HUBO HACER SIGLOS EN MI PLANETA NATAL.

MURIERON TODOS EN UNA GUERRA CIVIL LUCHANDO ENTRE SÍ.



¡NADIE PUEDE HACER FRENTE A UN DWALUI!

NO ME VEO CON ÁNIMOS DE LUCHAR CON O SIN SUPERPODERES. NO... UUUH...



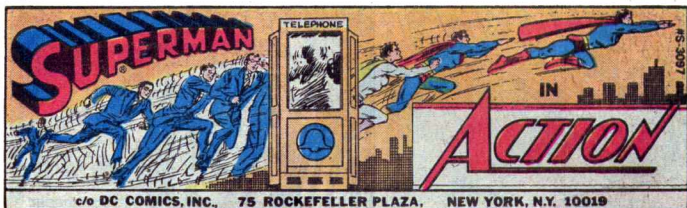
PRÓXIMO NÚMERO:

EL HOMBRE DE ACERO DEBERA ENFRENTARSE A UN GIGANTE DEL GLORIOSO PASADO DE KRYPTON. ¡NO OS PERDÁIS LA TITÁNICA BATALLA EN LA CUAL SOLO SOBREVIVIRÁ UN KRIPTONIANO!

¡EL ATAQUE DEL GUERRERO DEFINITIVO!



¡EN VENTA EN FEBRERO!



Dear Editor:

Tell me please what has gotten into Cary Bates! Somehow his stories lately have been superb evocations of the late sixties when his classic tales took *Superman* out of the doldrums and catapulted Mr. Bates to star status. "Krypton Dies Again" (#489) came mighty close to those Bates' classics because he has come full circle and gotten back to the basics of a good *Superman* story while still retaining all he has learned of characterization and plot development.

Naturally, stories pertaining to anniversaries of Krypton's demise have abounded for years, but this time a new angle is added—the light of Krypton's holocaust finally reaching Earth. In itself, this would appear to be just another Bates gimmick, but whether intentionally or not, Cary came up with an interesting contrast in terms of the approach to the phenomenon. Earth's approach was a hype—a media event, exploited and sensationalized like so many other modern newsworthy events. This contrasted with the solemn, reverent outlook the Kandorians took by wearing black headbands and standing in respectful silence—a nice touch.

Also making the story notable were the guest stars: Lois, Jimmy, and Clark's other co-workers; *Supergirl* and the citizens of Kandor; the *Justice League*; and last, the return of Brainiac. As baddies go, Brainiac has been one of the best, and here it was interesting to note that he, too, exploited the phenomenon—as a weapon.

Curt Swan, of course, did his normally great job, but he deserves special mention for truly capturing the drama and suspense of the countdown as seen cinematically on Earth, in Kandor, and from Superman's viewpoint in space.

This story was simply a classic and hopefully is another in a succession of good stories building up to the fast-approaching 500th issue.

Tony Edwards
454 N. Formosa Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90036

And if current plans go through, will we have a super-classic 500th issue for you! Just six issues hence, too.—ENB

Dear DC:

Cary Bates' plot in *ACTION* #489 was earmarked by originality and creative use of a bunch of old elements. It was great because of the scientific believability of the concept. It was interesting to see the Man of Steel's response to a fully personal emotional threat (even before it turned into a physical threat).

The cameos added realism and were well-done. It was good to again face the menace of Brainiac. If part 2 is as interesting as this episode, Cary will have scripted a meaningful and entertaining *Superman* story.

Curt Swan and Frank Chiaramonte are fine artists. However, I'd like to offer one criticism. I realize it is rarely that Curt is criticized, but I do think his faces could use more detail and expression. The people look too blank in several panels.

The *Atom* story was fun to read, and Bob Rozakis wrote a

well-paced script. I've always liked *The Atom* (I still think his powers should be heightened). The Alex Saviuk/Vince Colletta art was good and the logo looks great. The only strained element in the story was the amazing dexterity of the thief who could catch such a small object (*The Atom*) so easily. It is hard to believe he could grasp *The Atom* in a well-lit room, let alone by the head in the dark.

Wallace L. Hopkins
Box 428
Glen Carbon, IL 62034

Rooney became very dexterous back in his vaudeville days before he got really good—because of all the things the audience threw that he had to dodge! Sorry we've had to discontinue The Atom for now. Hopefully, he'll return in the not-too-distant future.—E. Nelson Bridwell

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION (Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)

- Title of Publication: *ACTON COMICS*
- Publication No.: 004480
- Date of Filing: October 1, 1978
- Frequency of Issue: Monthly
- No. of Issues Published Annually: 12
- Annual Subscription Price: \$6.75
- Location of Known Office of Publication: 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019
- Location of the Headquarters or General Business Office of the Publisher: 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019
- Names and Complete Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor: Publisher: DC COMICS INC., 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019; Editor: Julius Schwartz, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019; Managing Editor: Joe Orlando, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019
- Owner: DC Comics Inc., wholly owned by Warner Communications, Inc., a publicly held company, both at 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019
- Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages or Other Securities: None
- For Completion by Nonprofit Organizations Authorized to Mail at Special Rates: Not Applicable
- Extent and Nature of Circulation:
 - Total No. Copies Printed (Net Press Run): Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 476,694. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 389,940. 109. Paid Circulation: 1. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales: Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 182,135. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 211,778. 2. Mail Subscriptions: Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 1,466. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 1,121. 106. Total Paid Circulation (Sum of 1a and 1b): Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 183,601. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 212,899. 100. Free Distribution by Mail, Carrier or Other Means: Samples, Complimentary, and Other Free Copies: Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 110. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 117. 105. Total Distribution (Sum of 1c and 1d): Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 183,711. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 213,016. 10F. Copies Not Distributed: 1. Office Use, Left Over, Unaccounted, Spoiled After Printing: Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 4,045. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 1,823. 2. Returns From News Agents: Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 288,938. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 175,101. 10G. Total (Sum of 1F and 2)—should equal net press run shown in A): Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 476,694. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 389,940.
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JSA GOES AFTER BATMAN'S KILLER!

DEADMAN, FLASH, WONDER WOMAN, AQUAMAN ALSO STAR IN ADVENTURE #463

(DC, New York)—*Batman* is dead and both *Robin* and *The Huntress* have lost their secret identities as a result. Now, the time has come to discover the real power behind *The Caped Crusader's* killer! But will the mastermind strike again? You must not miss the legendary *Justice Society of America* in "Night Of The Soul-Stealer" by Paul Levitz and Joe Staton.

Then *The Flash* encounters an evil manitou which consumes people's afterimages as they pass through time and space in an adventure into the incredible by Cary Bates and Don Heck.

Wonder Woman must fight a swarm of killer bees in "The Insanity Swarm" by Gerry Conway, Joe Staton and Frank McLaughlin.

Aquaman fights to save the seas with all of Atlantis against him—including *Mera* and *Aqualad* in "Climax" by Paul Kupperberg, Don Heck and Bob Smith.

And *Deadman* gains a chance to return to mortal form—or does he? Read "Mind Over Murder" by Len Wein and Jose Garcia Lopez!

Special Note: *Ross Andru* takes over as editor of *ADVENTURE COMICS* when #463 goes on sale the week of February 5th. Whatever you do, don't miss it!



JONAH HEX—PREACHER?

(The Old West)—Can this be the Jonah Hex we know? The man whose only companions are death and the acrid smell of gunsmoke? Jonah Hex, the relentless bounty hunter—turned preacher?

It really happens in "Minister of the Lord" by Michael Fleisher and Luis Dominguez in the latest issue of DC's top western, *JONAH HEX*. Don't miss #24 when it goes on sale the week of February 5th!



ASK THE ANSWER MAN

Q: Are *Flash* and *Kid Flash* related?—Jeffrey Wilson. A: *Wally (Kid Flash) West* is the nephew-by-marriage of *Barry (Flash) Allen*. *Wally's* father and *Iris Allen* are brother and sister.

Q: When and where did *Green Lantern* first appear?—John Runion. A: The original *GL* debuted in *ALL-AMERICAN COMICS* #16 and the new version first appeared in *SHOWCASE* #22.

Q: Who was the first super-hero made by DC?—Brad Potston. A: The first hero recognized as such was none other than *Superman*!

Q: What was the Earth-2 *Catwoman's* maiden name?—Stephen Kasuba. A: Same as the Earth-1 *Feline Fury's*, *Seline Kyle*.

Q: Any *Bizarro* stories coming up?—Lee Kuivinen. A: He appeared just recently in *SUPERMAN* #333.

Q: Where can I get copies of *FREEDOM FIGHTERS* #12 and 14?—Ron Schott. A: Try one of the back issues dealers who advertise in our books.

Q: How many issues of its own book did the *Legion* have?—Mark W.C. Watkins. A: *LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES*, a reprint title, ran four issues.

Q: Who first discovered Earth-2?—Peter Nyblom. A: *The Flash*, in the now-classic "Flash of Two Worlds" in *FLASH* #123.

Q: Who were the members of the *Legion of Super-Pets*?—Brent Burton. A: *Krypto*,

Streaky, *Beppo the Super-Monkey*, *Comet the Super-Horse*, and *Proty II*.

Q: What happened to *Ace the Bathound*?—Angela Williams. A: He's happily retired.

Q: What is a dotted half-note worth on Earth-2?—Steve Bernard. A: I don't note!

DIRECT CURRENTS

ON SALE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 5th:

BATMAN #311—*Batman* and *Batgirl* team up when they learn that "Dr. Phosphorus Is Back" by Steve Englehart, Irv Novick and Dick Giordano. *UNEXPECTED* #191—Carl Wessler and Alfredo Alcala lead off this issue with "Night of the Voodoo Curse"; Al Case and Gerry Talaoe "Scream Along With Sammy"; George Kashdan asks "What Demon Dwells Within Me?"; Bill Kelley and Fred Carrillo explore "The Darkness Beyond"; Jack Oleck, Marshall Rogers and Bob Layton prove "The Dead Don't Cry"; Wessler and Nestor Malgouy warn that "The Harpies are Coming"; Wessler and S.R. Bissette uncover "The Ouija Omen"; Roger McKenzie and Vicente Alcazar "Sing a Song of Sorcery"; and Kashdan and Jerry Grandenetti display "The Fine Art of Murder".

WEIRD WAR TALES #75—"The Forgery" is the work of Wyatt Gwyon, Mike Sekowsky and Romeo Tanghal; "Fire of the Gods" is lit by Paul Kupperberg, Don Heck and John Celardo; and the "Ghost Patrol" haunts you courtesy of Bob Rozakis, George Ruppert and Dan Adkins.

AND ON SALE RIGHT NOW:
ACTION COMICS #494 / *BRAVE & BOLD* (*Batman* and *Teen Titans*) #149 / *GREEN LANTERN* #115 / *HOUSE OF MYSTERY* #267 / *SGT. ROCK* #327 / *SUPERBOY & THE LEGION* #250 / *SUPER FRIENDS* #267 / *SUPERMAN* #327 / *UNKNOWN SOLDIER* #226 / *WARLORD* #20 / *WEIRD WESTERN TALES* #54 / *WONDER WOMAN* #254

